Rangiya-Rangapara North has been completed and detailed estimate sanctioned.

(c) The work of doubling between New Bongaigaon-Guwahati is not sanctioned.

New railway zone in Kerala

2083. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Kerala Government for a new railway zone in the State; and

(b) if so, what is the response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) New Railway Zones are set up keeping in view the factors like size, workload accessibility, traffic pattern and other operational/administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency and not on regional considerations. The proposal for creation of new Zone, in Kerala, when examined in the light of these considerations, has not been found feasible.

Crime in trains

†2084. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incident of looting and violence with passengers travelling in long distance trains are increasing;

(b) whether his Ministry in formulating any scheme to spend more amount on this, in order to tigthen security in the trains;

(c) the main cause of the looting and violence, etc. in the trains; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating to deploy lady Police in the coaches reserved for ladies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. there has been a decline in the number of incidents of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.